

MONTANA IS PROUD OF THE BOZEMAN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to recognize an outstanding group of Montana students. Recently, the Bozeman High School Marching Band and Color Guard earned the opportunity to perform in the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, CA. By the sounds of the crowd of onlookers, it is safe to say that they stole the show. It was a beautiful day for a parade, and the Bozeman High School Marching Band and Color Guard took advantage of the opportunity to make a name for themselves. Over the past few years, Montana students have truly become competitive in academics, athletics, and the arts. The Bozeman High School band is just one of the many examples where Montana students are gaining national recognition. There are few appearances by Montana High Schools at events of this caliber, but rest assured, there are many more to come.

Under the direction of Russ and Loralee Newbury, these students worked extremely hard to prepare for this prestigious event. They represented their school, city, county, and state with great enthusiasm and talent. I know that I speak for the people of Bozeman and the State of Montana when I say that I am very proud of these students. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate every one of these students on a job well done.

Mr. President, I ask that articles from the Bozeman Daily Chronicle of December 29, 1998, and January 2, 1999, be printed in the RECORD.

The articles follow:

[From the Bozeman Daily Chronicle, Dec. 29, 1998]

CALIFORNIA, HERE THEY COME (By Gail Schontzler)

Three hundred Bozeman High Marching Band members boarded charter planes in the wee hours Monday morning to fly to Los Angeles in advance of Friday's big Tournament of Roses Parade.

Two hundred lucky friends and family members flew down with them and will be able to see the New Year's Day parade in person. The rest of us will just have to try to catch the band on TV.

Two television networks, CBS and NBC, and one available only by satellite, Home & Garden TV, plan to carry the 110th Tournament of Roses Parade.

The parade itself begins at 9 a.m. MST and that's when NBC plans to begin its 90-minute coverage. CBS will start at 8 a.m. MST with an hour-long pre-parade show. Home & Garden TV is the only station that will carry the entire parade live and uninterrupted, but you have to be a satellite subscriber to receive its programming.

So when's the best time to try to see the Bozeman band? According to the official parade program, Bozeman is scheduled to march in spot No. 71 out of the 103 parade entries, right after a group of fezwearing Shriners on horseback. All together there will be 56 floats, 22 marching bands and 25 equestrian teams.

There's no way to know how many seconds of fame Bozeman's band will get from CBS or

NBC—there's no guarantee some jovial commentator or commercial break won't blot the Bozeman band out entirely. But the band's boosters did their best to make Bozeman sound colorful.

In the advance publicity sent to the parade organizers and the Home & Garden channel, Bozeman listed its famous alumni as actor Gary Cooper and New York Giants middle linebacker Corey Widmer, "who played trumpet in the band"; reported that Bozeman High was named one of the nation's top 10 schools by Redbook magazine; and said it snows every month in Bozeman.

The marching band has practiced in weather as low as 10 degrees with 40-mph gusts of wind blowing snow down the sousaphones," the school reported. "Airplane hangers are preferred practice sites in such weather."

It also boasted that Bozeman is the fly-fishing capital of the world and that Bozeman led the state in National Merit Scholars in 1997 and 1998.

Bozeman will be competing for air time with the likes of the Los Angeles Unified All District High School Honor Band, which reported logging 100 miles around Dodger Stadium to get in shape for the parade, and the Lincoln High School Band from Stockton, Calif., one of the nation's asparagus-growing leaders.

To hear the bands and see the flower-covered floats, one million people will line the five-and-a-half-mile parade route, according to the Pasadena Police Department. Many will bring sleeping bags and camp overnight.

In honor of the end of the century, this year's Rose parade will have four grand marshals, actress and diplomat Shirley Temple Black, David Wolper, who produced "Roots," a friend representing the late baseball great Jackie Robinson and astronaut Buzz Aldrin, who walked on the moon.

[From the Bozeman Daily Chronicle, Jan. 2, 1999]

BOZEMAN HIGH BAND TAKES ITS PLACE IN ROSE PARADE HISTORY (By Ann Arbor Miller)

PASADENA, Calif.—Instruments in hand, shoelaces double-knotted and hair tucked inside hats topped with red and black plumes, the Bozeman High School Marching Band took its place in parade history.

The band, 298 teen-agers strong, marched the five-and-a-half mile route Friday through the heart of this Southern California city.

"I'm felling awesome," said junior Brandon Warwood during a brief break eight blocks from the end of the 110th Tournament of Roses Parade. "I could do this all day."

An estimated one million spectators, seated in stadium bleachers, lawn chairs and on the curb, lined the streets for the New Year's Day spectacle. They took to the roof tops of local businesses and apartment buildings. They built makeshift bleachers with step-ladders and wooden boards, topping the seats with blankets for padding.

Many shouted praise and cheers for the Bozeman band, whose members wore their stately, wool uniforms of black, red and silver.

"Go Bozeman."

"Looking good."

"Happy New year."

"Take the cold weather home with you."

Parade-goers left a trail of confetti, silly string and tortillas along the parade route.

Bozeman's appearance here was a first in the school's history and is certainly a rarity among Montana high schools. Many young musicians were still trying to comprehend

their arrival here during the hour before the parade start at 9 a.m.

"It doesn't seem real," said freshman Jamie Booth. "It is so much bigger than any parade we've ever been in."

For Jeff Knacht, a 1998 Bozeman High graduate, Friday's event was a chance of a lifetime.

"We actually get to do it—a little nowhere town in Montana," said an amazed Knacht, one of half a dozen or so recent graduates asked to rejoin the band for this parade.

A full moon shone over the group as it made its way from a hotel in Buena Park, Calif., to Pasadena in the early morning. The band arrived in Pasadena at 8 a.m. MST, sleepy and groggy after the more than an hour drive.

On one of seven buses carrying band members to the parade the sounds of the Beach Boys and Aretha Franklin blared from the charter's sound system, courtesy of a Los Angeles radio station. The music prompted some musicians to dance in the aisle and sing along.

But the students' attention soon turned to more important tasks like adjusting chin straps and warming up their hands.

Band director Russ Newbury called a last minute check for all instruments.

A sense of nervousness and excitement loomed as band members settled in their positions and waited to take spot No. 71—behind the Araret Shrine Mounted Guard and its 17 horses and in front of an impressive float with a giant pair of Tyrannosaurus Rex.

Augel Medina, of California, knows the importance of a good seat. His grandson spent the night babysitting eight empty chairs on Colorado Boulevard to ensure the family had good views of the floats and bands.

"It's more fun to be closer," Medina said. "You can talk to the participants and even shake their hands."

Bozemen's marchers earned high marks from Medina, who admitted he's a huge fan of a good parade.

"It is always a beautiful day for a parade," he said.

Almost two hours after the Bozeman band began this parade trek, members passed a child holding a Magna Doodle that read: "Almost there."

Minutes later, the Bozeman High School Marching Band completed its journey with sore feet, much pride and a desperate thirst for water.●

MOTHER GERALDINE WRIGHT'S BIRTHDAY

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to honor an outstanding individual, Mother Geraldine Marvel Miller Wright, on the occasion of her birthday on Sunday, February 28, 1999.

Mother Geraldine Wright, the wife of one of the nation's most prominent Bishops, the Bishop Earl J. Wright, Sr., the mother of three children, Earl Jr., Michael and Marvie; has learned how to labor in the ministry standing beside her husband and helping him in the work. This task is not new to Mother Wright—her lineage is made up of a host of leaders. Her father was a Bishop, her brother is a Bishop, and she has a brother-in-law who is also a Bishop.